IN THE MATTER OF * BEFORE THE MARYLAND

LAWRENCE IACARINO, M.A. * BOARD OF EXAMINERS

UNLICENSED * OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

* Case No. 2014-016

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CONSENT ORDER

HISTORY

On or about February 7, 2013, the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists (the "Board") received an application for licensure as a psychologist from an applicant with a history of criminal and disciplinary actions related to mental illness. In investigating the matter, the Board learned that the applicant was receiving psychological services from Lawrence Iacarino, MA. At the time, Mr. Iacarino was not licensed by the Board as a psychologist or registered with the Board as a psychology associate.

In lieu of instituting formal proceedings against Mr. Iacarino, in accordance with the Maryland Psychologists Act, Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 18-101 *et seq.*, and Board regulations, COMAR 10.36.01, a Pre-charge Case Resolution Conference ("CRC") was held with members of the Board, Board Counsel, and Mr. Iacarino on May 13, 2016. Thereafter, the Board and Mr. Iacarino agreed to resolve this matter as set forth in this Consent Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On or about February 7, 2013, the Board received an application for licensure as a psychologist from an individual with an extensive disciplinary and criminal history that occurred after the onset of a mental illness. In investigating the applicant, the Board learned that he was receiving psychological services from Mr. Iacarino.

- 2. Specifically, the information received by the Board indicated that Mr. Iacarino was treating the applicant for anxiety. The services Mr. Iacarino was providing, which were psychological in nature, were variously described as "behavior modification," "behavior counseling," and "behavior therapy." Mr. Iacarino also sought supervision from a licensed psychologist in relation to his treatment of the applicant.
- 3. Mr. Iacarino, who has a Master of Arts in school psychology and is nationally certified in school psychology, has never been licensed with the Board as a psychologist;¹ nor was he registered with the Board as a psychology associate at the time he provided services to the applicant.
- 4. On May 13, 2016, the Board held a CRC with Mr. Iacarino. At the CRC, Mr. Iacarino did not dispute the nature of the psychological services he provided to the applicant, which included cognitive behavioral therapy. He also admitted that he sought supervision for his treatment of the applicant from a licensed psychologist. Mr. Iacarino said his intent in treating the applicant was to help him with developing a "therapeutic approach" to the world via behavior modification and "counseling."
- 5. At the CRC, Mr. Iacarino also stated that he had been registered with the Board as a psychology associate in the 1990s, but that he allowed his registration to lapse when his psychologist supervisor retired. Although he did not get a new psychologist supervisor or maintain his registration at that time, he continued to provide the same psychological services he provided while registered with the Board as a psychology associate.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that Mr. Iacarino is subject

¹ Because he does not have a doctoral degree in psychology, Mr. Iacarino is not eligible to be licensed with the Board as a psychologist, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 18-302(f).

to discipline pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 18-401(a) and 18-404(b), and COMAR 10.36.08.07B.

ORDER

It is this 10th day of June, 2016, by an affirmative vote of the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists, hereby:

ORDERED that Mr. Iacarino shall pay a fine in the amount of \$5,000.00, payable to the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists, within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order; and be it further,

ORDERED that Mr. Iacarino shall refrain from practicing psychology in Maryland, unless and until he is appropriately licensed or registered by the Board; and be it further,

ORDERED that in the event Mr. Iacarino obtains a valid license or registration to practice psychology in Maryland, he shall practice at all times in accordance with the Maryland Psychologists Act; and be it further,

ORDERED that Mr. Iacarino's failure to pay in full the above fine within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, or failure to otherwise comply with this Order, shall be considered a violation of this Order, and after notice and opportunity for a hearing shall subject him to further discipline; and be it further,

ORDERED that this is a formal order of the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists and as such is a public document pursuant to Maryland Code Ann., General Provisions § 4-333(b).

11. 04. 2016 Date

Neal R. Morris, Ed.D., MS, CBSM, ABPP Chair Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists

CONSENT

- 1. By signing this Consent, I hereby affirm the findings of fact contained herein and agree to be bound by the foregoing Consent Order and its conditions.
- 2. By this Consent, I submit to the foregoing Consent Order as a resolution of this matter.
- 3. By signing this Consent, I waive any rights I may have had to contest the findings and determinations contained in this Consent Order.
- 4. I acknowledge that this is a formal order of the Board and as such is a public document.
- 5. I acknowledge the legal authority and the jurisdiction of the Board to enter and enforce this Consent Order.
- 6. I sign this Consent Order freely and voluntarily, after having had the opportunity to consult with counsel. I fully understand the language, meaning, and effect of this Consent Order.

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Lawrence Iacarino, MA

STATE OF MARYLAND COUNTY/CITY OF:

I hereby certify that on this 33 day of words, 2016, before me, a Notary Public of the State of Maryland and County/City aforesaid, personally appeared Lawrence Iacarino, and made an oath in due form that the foregoing Consent was his voluntary act and deed.

Notary Public

My commission expires:

JAMES J. VYKOL

*IOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF MARYLAND

**Commission Expires March 19, 2017